

Bruce A. Magnuson, John D. Mahonet, J.M. Mangano, Donald E. Mannin, A. Marcha, W.W. Marragos, William L. Marshall, Daniel L. Martin, William M. Martin, J.P. Martinez, R.S. Martinez, David A. Mayzlik, G.E. McCrillis, Jr., William S. Mccune, Roger W. McDonald, Charles A. McDuffie, R.T. Mcgettigan, Duckey McKnight, John P. Mcniel, Thomas Mesa, William G. Meyer, R.C. Mickels, B.J. Mihneski, F.M. Miller, Jr., N.J. Minucci, K.L. Mokern, C.F. Momillen, James Money, Salvador Montes, Jr., E. E. Montor, Lindy N. Moore, James N. Morgan, Kenneth D. Morgan, T.R. Morley, Franklin F. Morris, Jr., Carl J. Morton, W.D. Moss, Danny L. Murphy, David R. Murphy, Monty D. Murphy, and D.L. Myers.

F. Nagy, P.E. Nance, Phillip E. Nash, F.F. Nives, and George C. Noland,

R.A. O'Conner, Michael L. O'Mary, and Richard D. Ortega.

Richard B. Palmer, James A. Parker, J.W. Peavy, J.L. Pell, Joseph E. Peters, D.V. Phillips, Paul C. Phillips, W.L. Phillips, P.L. Phipps, David K. Pickard, R.E. Pierson, Gale V. Pinkston, P.L. Plander, Michael J. Polly, A. Potter, D.C. Powell, A. D. Prater, T. A. Press, M.E. Price, Marvin E. Price, and C.J. Pummel.

W.E. Queale.

Edward E. Raiche, Bertrand Randolph, T.G. Ray, Malcolm S. Read, K.R. Reed, Jackie L. Replogle, L.B. Reynolds, Franklin Rhodes, Vincent A. Richardson, James Riley, R.J. Risk, W.T. Ritenour, Joseph P. Rizzi, E. Robertson, Jr., J.F. Robertson, Jr., Isaac R. Robinson III, Lewis W.L. Robinson, Eugene J. Ruthman, and William F. Ryder.

G. Sanchez, M. Sanchez, J. Santiago, R.J. Schimes, R. Schlaier, W. Schlipf, S.D. Sears, Lonie S. Sedlacek, C.F. Seiler, L.H. Sewell, H.A. Shafer, J.J. Sheridan, David S. Sherrad, R.A. Shoemaker, Lorece Sigler, Jack W. Simmons, R.L. Simpson, R.B. Sims, Robert R. Slusher, Charles L. Smith, F.F. Smith, G.T. Smith, Gary A. Smith, Michael L. Smith, Robert L. Smith, Richard C. Smoldt, R.D. Spalding, Lyleh Spear, L.M. Spears, Larry A. Stedenburg, R.B. Steinberg, Phillip M. Steiner, Stephens, William H. Stewart, E. Strange, James L. Stowell, and G.R. Suter.

Raul Tamez, Jerry L. Taylor, William D. Tedhow, E.M. Telenko, Bruce R. Thomas, David J. Thomas, Donald Thomas, Edward L. Thompson, Al V. Tindell, Bobby W. Todd, D.A. Toomai, Julias A. Torrence, D.J. Traina, Ainulfo P. Torres, Fred E. Trueblood, and Jeffrey S. Tucker.

Vern F. Vannier, W.L. Vanryzin, W.S. Vetter, Zane C. Vinton, and Wayne A. Volk.

W.E. Wakefield, E.P. Walbridge, Barry L. Walker, J.C. Walker, D.C. Wallace, Jacob Jr. Wallace, J.L. Waller, J.F. Ward, Rocky D. Washburn, Tin Watts, R.H. Webb, Robert L. Weddington, Terrence G. Weller, S. Westmorelan, M.H. Wharton, Joseph D. White, M.W. White, K.E. Wihlmer, Russell P. Wild, Richard A. Wiler, George W. Williams, Richard J. Willsher, Donald P. Wilson, Robert M. Wilson, R.E. Wingrove, A.L. Winslow, J.L. Wood, B.E. Woodman, Phillip E. Woronick, and Christolar Wright.

Bruce S. York, Matthew L. Zechmeister, Hal F. Zehr, Michael J. Zent, and J.J. Ziros.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA WILBANKS AND JOETTA MIAL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cynthia Wilbanks

and Joetta Mial on being named Women of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Cynthia and Joetta were awarded this distinguished honor for their excellence in business ethics and volunteerism through a philosophy which parallels that of the Girl Scout movement. Currently Cynthia is the Vice President of Government Relations at the University of Michigan. Joetta is a retired Ann Arbor Huron High School principle, and began her career as a teacher in the school system. Both women are intensely involved as leaders in the community, serving as members of numerous organizations to enhance the well-being of the Ann Arbor population. Their dedication should serve as inspiration to the entire community, reminding us that service is an important part of American life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Cynthia Wilbanks and Joetta Mial on being named Women of Distinction. We wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN OPERATION APPRECIATION

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the contributions of Operation Appreciation, an organization whose hard work has helped improve the lives of those entrusted to protect our nation.

Operation Appreciation was the direct result of a loving mother, Diana Low, and her two sons, Cody and Casey, wanting to show their gratitude for the men and women in charge of keeping this great nation safe. Diana wanted to teach her children the importance of voicing their thanks and admiration. She has no idea that this lesson would unite people from all over the country in the simple goal of saying thank you.

After September 11th, I launched a similar program known as Letters from the Homeland. This program called on the people of Minnesota to write letters to the soldiers overseas. The outpouring of support was remarkable.

Operation Appreciation took the idea to the next level. Through the efforts of the Low family, Operation Appreciation began with the heartfelt words of appreciation from children and then expanded to include classrooms in Minnesota. Now, similar letter writing campaigns have started in California, Illinois, Arizona and, Wisconsin. Thousands of children have voiced their gratitude for the men and women serving our nation in Afghanistan.

Initiatives such as Operation Appreciation and Letters from the Homeland are an excellent way to tell the men and women in the armed forces their efforts are not going unnoticed. From the kids in the classroom to the soldiers in the field, everyone benefits.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the individuals involved in Operation Appreciation for their exceptional work in conveying the nation's support for our military personnel.

BILL AND CAROL ELLIS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF NEWS WORK IN PARMER COUNTY

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to the remarkable careers that Bill and Carol Ellis have accomplished in the newspaper business in Parmer County. This year marks the 40th year that Mr. and Mrs. Ellis have served news consumers in Parmer County.

Mr. Ellis' newspaper career began on the West Coast before he moved to Parmer County. He has served as news editor of the Friona Star. He later became managing editor of the publication. He and his wife, Carol, now own the publication through which they have served Parmer County residents well for 40 years. Bill and Carol Ellis also own the Bovina Blade, another publication that serves Parmer County residents.

Bill and Carol Ellis, throughout their careers, have kept Parmer County residents informed about important issues affecting them, their communities and beyond. They have given their readers a better understanding and a greater appreciation for their communities. Although their talents could have taken their careers to larger-circulation publications, Parmer County remained home, which has been to the benefit of the readers of the Bovina Blade and Friona Star.

I would like to extend to Bill and Carol Ellis my thanks for their dedication to Parmer County residents, and I wish them well in their continued service to the public through providing informative and insightful coverage of Parmer County communities.

ASSAULT ON INDEPENDENT MEDIA IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express concern for the fate of an independent media in Kazakhstan. On May 21 several unidentified men forcibly entered the offices of the Sol-Dat newspaper—one of the few remaining independent opposition papers in Kazakhstan. The men severely beat two journalists in the office, destroyed and stole equipment and told the beaten journalists that this was only a warning. Police who arrived on the scene further confiscated equipment and files.

The very next day, another independent newspaper in Almaty, "Delovoye Obzoreniye" was firebombed.

What did these newspapers do to deserve this fate? They dared to criticize President Nazarbayev. In recent years President Nazarbayev has made a concerted effort to shut down his opposition by denying dissent voices any means of expression. He has also put political opponents in jail and driven others into exile. All this, despite repeated assurances to President Bush and the international community that he would preserve an independent media and free expression for the citizens of Kazakhstan.